

by a Greek missionary, and because of persecution they emigrated to America early in the 17 century and settled at Germantown, Pa. Christian Saur became the first bishop of the Germantown church and being a man of learning and a printer by trade published the first American Bible and organized the first Sunday-school. He stated that as congregations, multitudes of questions of polity arose, the elders and bishops were called together for consultation and advice, and these finally evolved into what has since been known as annual meetings. While the emigration was westward and churches located in different localities, there were some that never submitted to the decisions of Annual meetings and practiced as the "Original Brethren." In 1836 by a decision of Annual meeting, the name German Baptist was adapted, which has since been divided into two branches known as the "old order" and "conservatives." While those holding to the original faith and practice, who in some parts were known as progressive and in other localities as Congregational Brethren, met at Ashland, O., June 29, 1882, for the purpose of a reconstruction of the Brethren church. The convention adjourned to meet at Dayton, June 6, 1883, and there a consolidation was effected, the Bible-alone doctrine was adopted and the original name "Brethren" assumed. His short talk did much to strengthen the members in the faith, and convinced others that the Brethren church was not an offspring of the Dunkard church. Too much praise and honor cannot be given those modern apostles who chose to "obey God rather than man." The result of the meeting was five accessions. "Five wise virgins" concluded to have their spiritual lamp filled and were baptized on Monday, Feb. 15, and received into full church fellowship at the evening services. May their lamps be filled and burning when the Bridegroom comes.

EDGAR THOMAS.

## HUDSON, IOWA.

The church at Hudson is neither dead or sleeping. Yesterday, Feb. 20, Enon and Hudson Sunday-schools held a union S. S. convention in which topics of interest to all S. S. workers were ably discussed. Good results must come from this effort. Our S. S. teacher and superintendent are doing excellent work. Our pastor is feeding us with good spiritual food each Lord's day, and in all, we ought to feel encouraged. The S. S. C. E. is doing a great deal of quilting this winter. But in this our sisters realize that financial gain is slow, yet we are thankful to get the work to do. The Corresponding Secretary of

Christian Endeavor may send in a report for that department of church work. When praying, don't forget to pray that Hudson church may ever be a true and shining light to guide sinners to God. May we ever do our part in helping with all the general work of the church.

Fraternally,

MAY DEITZ, Cor. Sec.

## ROSSVILLE, IND.

I preached five sermons in the New-light church in Converse, Ind., last week. The immediate result was one baptized and, one confessed the Lord, and to all appearance several more were almost persuaded. Our Mission Board ought to look after this point. At the regular monthly service at the Bethel church last Sunday evening, 7 more confessed Christ. These added to the 35 already reported makes 42 added to the number at Bethel the last two months.

J. H. SWIHART.

## VERNALIS, CAL.

To all a kindly greeting: I am still in the field. At times I feel like Jacob "All these things are against me." Other times like Paul "I thank God and take courage." One applicant for baptism at our mission point in Calaveras Co. The work of evangelization in California progresses slowly, but here and elsewhere we must "labor and wait." And indeed we gladly labor knowing that our labor in the Lord is not in vain. I expect to return to Missouri in the Spring. P. S. G.

## Matrimonial.

TANNER—SHAKLEY.—At the home of the bride's father on February 25, 1897, Mr. William Tanner and sister Minnie Shakley were joined in marriage by the writer.

WM. KIEFER.

## Our Dead.

CLAPPER.—Cicero Clapper was born in Stark Co., Ohio, Nov. 30, 1853, died Feb. 21, 1897, aged 43 years, 2 months, and 21 days. Brother Clapper united with the German Baptist church 22 years ago, and when the division took place, he cast his lot with the Brethren. Being elected a deacon he served in that office for 11 years. He was one of those kind, patient, charitable men, that never murmured or found fault. He was a man of genius, and will not only be missed in the home and in the church, but much missed in the shop as a machinist. He leaves a wife, 9 children, 5 brothers, 5 sisters, father and mother to mourn their loss.

The funeral took place in the Brethren Church in Louisville, in which town he resided for quite a number of years. Services by the writer, assisted by Elder Lewis Hang of the Brethren Church and Rev. Davidson of the U. B. Church.

J. L. KIMMEL.

FOLK.—Lydia Folk was born in Washington Township, Stark Co., Ohio, Oct. 26, 1822, died Feb. 13, 1897 at her home in Louisville, aged 74 years, 3 months and 13 days. She was the mother of 2 children, 13 grand children and one great grand child. She was married to Peter Folk December 11, 1845, and this happy union continued for 52 years. She was a consistent member of the Brethren church, ever since her organization, prior to that she was a member of the German Baptist church. She leaves a devoted husband who very much mourns his loss, but who has the blessed assurance that our loss will be her eternal gain. Funeral services by the writer, assisted by Dr. Lebberman, of the Reformed church, and Elder Jacob Weirich, of the German Baptist church.

J. L. KIMMEL.

GINTER.—Laura Olive Ginter, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ginter, died February 21, 1897. Funeral services conducted by the writer.

WM. KIEFER.

BOWMAN.—Elizabeth Bowman was born Nov. 18, 1833, died Feb. 11, 1897, age 63 years, 2 months and 23 days. Deceased leaves a husband and twelve children to mourn their loss. These twelve children are all living, and grown up. She was a member of the United Brethren Church. Services at the residence near Ankenytown.

S. B. GRISSE.

EMMERT.—Louise Tenant, infant daughter of Jacob and Augustine Emmert, died Feb. 3, 1897, aged 5 months. Lorine Winders, infant sister of Louise, died Feb. 11, 1897. Brother and Sister Emmert most Christianly gave up to God that which he so briefly committed unto them.

ZED H. COPP.

PLETCHER.—Bryan Earl, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Pletcher was born Sept. 11, 1896, died Feb. 21, 1897. The little one was called away very suddenly. Only Sunday morning was carried by his parents, alive and well to church and ere midnight was dead. A flower to blossom and die ere winter passes. Such is life. In the midst of life, we are in death. Funeral was held at the Brethren Church,